

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 16 and 19 - 31 are pending in the present application. Claims 17 and 18 were previously canceled. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

In section 6 of the Office Action, claims 1 – 16 and 19 – 31¹ are rejected under 35 U.S.c. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,177,860 to Cromer et al. (hereinafter “the Cromer et al. Patent”). Applicants are clarifying an aspect of claim 1 that is not disclosed by the Cromer et al. patent.

Claim 1 provides for a method that includes, *inter alia*, (a) situating a configuration device at an installation location in a system and (b) storing data in the configuration device, pertaining to the installation location.

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a system that employs the method of claim 1. The system includes a configuration device, i.e., a marker 22, situated at a location 2 in the system.

The Cromer et al. patent describes a system that utilizes an RFID tag that is part of a computer's memory space (col. 3, lines 15 – 16). The RFID tag holds a serial number, a hardware configuration profile, a software configuration profile, and user information (Abstract). Thus, the RFID tag is situated in the computer, and does not appear to hold information pertaining to an installation location in a system. Therefore, the Cromer et al. patent does not disclose situating a configuration device **at an installation location in a system**, and storing data in the configuration device, **pertaining to the installation location**, as recited in claim 1. Hence, the Cromer et al. patent does not anticipate claim 1.

Claims 2 – 16 and 19 - 31 depend from claim 1. By virtue of this dependence, claims 2 – 16 and 19 – 31 are also novel over the Cromer et al. patent.

¹ The Office Action states that claims 1 – 16 and 19 – 27 are rejected. However, from the detailed description of the rejection, it is apparent that claims 1 – 16 and 19 – 31 are being rejected.

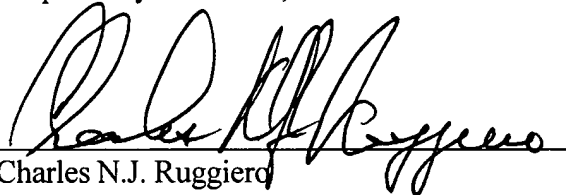
Applicants are requesting reconsideration and a withdrawal of the section 102(b) rejection of claims 1 – 16 and 19 – 31.

As mentioned above, Applicants are clarifying an aspect of claim 1 that is not disclosed by the Cromer et al. patent. Additionally, Applicants are amending claims 2, 9, 10, 11, 19 and 30 for consistency with claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims presented in this application patentably distinguish over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and that this application be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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